

MGIB helps Malmstrom Members get more money

By Ann Chris Powell
Public affairs office

As of May 1, certain active-duty servicemembers became eligible for the opportunity to increase their Montgomery G.I. Bill benefits.

The policy allows servicemembers to contribute an extra \$600 to increase their benefits by \$5,400. The eligible participants are active-duty personnel who joined the military after July 1, 1985, and elected to participate in the Montgomery G.I. Bill. Servicemembers who were honorably discharged between Nov. 1, 2000, and April 30, 2001, must elect to the contributions by July 31. The benefit isn't open for Vietnam-era servicemembers, or VEAP converters.

"At the current rate for a full-time student, the VA payment is \$650 per month. The extra \$600 contribution would increase that monthly benefit to \$800 a month," said Wayne Benson, education center. "It's a good idea because you're getting more money on top of the basic amount."

Participants may contribute a maximum of \$600 and a minimum of \$20. All contributions are non-refundable and don't offer a tax benefit. Also, servicemembers can start or stop contributions at any time while they're active duty.

For example, if a participant contributes \$100 a month the benefit rate increases by \$25. Then the participant will have a monthly rate of \$675. With the \$600 contribution, a participant's monthly rate increases to \$800.

If an individual wants to participate in the program, he should go to the education center to fill out a DD Form 2366.

The member must go to the finance office and confirm the contribution by filling out a DD Form 1131 and signing the DD Form 2366.

Contributions can be paid by pay deductions, separation pay, cash, cashier's checks, money orders or checks made out to the finance office.

"All this for my college education."



Getting dirty wit' it

Esther Vigil scribes a design in her pot while Theresa Coppage examines her cup Wednesday at the skills development center.



Photo by Ann Chris Powell

NOW SHOWING

AFTV News June 11 edition out

SAN ANTONIO (AFP) – The new secretary of the Air Force said the ability to change to meet diverse threats and the ability to keep its people in uniform as career members of the Air Force are the two biggest challenges he sees for the service. Dr. James Roche made the comments in an interview in the latest edition of Air Force Television News.

Also in the latest program, SrA Israel Aviles travels to the Arizona governor's office and also talks to the mayor of Glendale, Ariz., in his report on a new state law that protects Luke Air Force Base from encroachment.

TSgt Dean Padgett flies with Royal Air Force crews being trained at Charleston AFB, S.C., as the RAF gets the first of several C-17 Globemaster III's.

The program reports on accelerated recruiting efforts during May; SSgts Joe Wallace and Bill Scherer's coverage of the Coca-Cola 600 NASCAR race; and SrA Kevin Dennison's attendance at a small Oregon school's senior prom, an event that was part of an Internet promotion designed to attract high school seniors to the service.

SrA Marty Rush flies with an Ohio Air Force Reserve unit and the Coast Guard as the two team up to help protect the environment against oil spills. SSgt Wallace and Army Spc Matt Fowler report on the reunion of the famed Doolittle Raiders and their attendance at the premier of the blockbuster summer movie "Pearl Harbor."

Air Force Television News is a biweekly production of

Airman Magazine available online

SAN ANTONIO (AFP) – providing a safe and secure environment for vacationers to this little-known jewel of the Department of Defense recreation areas. When the stripes come off and the badges go on, three airmen put their lives on the line fighting crime and patrolling the streets with the Yuba County, Calif., Sheriff's Department. Also, the Joint Direct Attack Munition is giving Minot Air Force Base, N.D., B-52 crews more punch and is providing the Air



This issue also spotlights the security forces troops who are assigned to cover paradise – Bellows Air Force Station, Hawaii

Force an inexpensive way to put bombs on target.

In addition, regular columns like Airman's World, Consumer and Edge keep you up-to-date with what's happening around the Air Force.

This issue is available at the home of Air Force news and information on the Web, Air Force Link, at www.af.mil/news/airman.

Look for copies of Airman at Malmstrom. Call the public affairs office at 731-4050 for details, or order copies for a unit by e-mailing a complete mailing address to afnspub@afnews.af.mil.

Air Force News Service, the only military television production offered with closed captioning. It's distributed on videotape to more than 3,000 military and civilian outlets worldwide, is seen on more than 700 cable outlets nation-

wide, is one of the featured offerings on the newly initiated Pentagon Channel and can be viewed on the Internet at www.af.mil. Viewers can comment on the program by sending e-mail to: aftvnews@afnews.af.mil.